



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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DEQ'S DRINKING WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM Moves to Calcasieu Parish

BATON ROUGE – The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality recently selected Calcasieu Parish as the next stop for its drinking water protection campaign. “Protect Drinking Water One Drop at a Time” is the slogan for the program that is aimed at increasing the public’s awareness and participation in protecting the area’s drinking water. DEQ brought the program to Calcasieu Parish in 2005, but it was interrupted by Hurricane Rita.

The campaign will officially kickoff with the Calcasieu Parish community meeting on Thursday, Aug. 14, at 6 p.m. at the Lake Charles Civic Center’s Contraband Room, 900 Lakeshore Drive.

The Drinking Water Protection Program is a voluntary program designed to assist communities in protecting their drinking water sources. The campaign seeks to involve private citizens, community groups, water systems, local government officials, businesses and industry in the protection of the parish’s waters. The meeting will address the goals of the program and ways in which citizens may participate. Since clean water is essential for good health, DEQ’s Drinking Water Protection Team will share protection and conservation tips that residents can use in their homes and businesses. DEQ is encouraging all residents in Calcasieu Parish to attend the community meeting and to take an active role in ensuring clean drinking water for the future.

DEQ is seeking volunteers to serve on a committee to work with the community in creating a sustainable drinking water protection program. For more information, contact drinking water team members Mary Gentry or Tiffani Cravens at (225) 219-3510 and visit the DEQ web page at <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/AEPs>.

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